IN THE CLAIMS:

1. – 23. (*Cancelled*)

24. (*Previously presented*) PLGA plasticized with ethanol, obtained with a process comprising the following steps:

a) grinding PLGA to obtain a ground product in which the particles have dimensions less than 250 μm;

b) adding ethanol to the ground product obtained in the preceding step in concentrations between 5 and 20 parts by weight/weight of PLGA and heating the mixture obtained to a temperature between 45 and 65°C, until a viscous and stable gel is obtained;

c) drying the product coming from step (b),

d) grinding the dried product obtained at a temperature ranging from –20 and +5°C;

e) optionally mixing the product originating from the preceding step with PLGA as such which has been previously ground until a ground product of particle size less than 250 μm is obtained, in weight ratios between 10:90 and 99:1, at a temperature between –20 and +5°C,

f) extruding the aforesaid mixture at 75°C,

g) grinding the extruded product at a temperature between -20°C and +5°C.

25. (*Previously presented*) Plasticized PLGA as claimed in claim 24 containing ethanol in concentrations between 2 and 15 % by weight on the weight of PLGA.

26. (*Previously presented*) Plasticized PLGA as claimed in claim 25 wherein said ethanol concentrations are comprised between 3 and 10% by weight on the weight of PLGA.

27. (*Previously presented*) Plasticized PLGA as claimed in claim 25 wherein said concentrations are between 5 and 10% by weight on the weight of PLGA.

28. (*Previously presented*) Plasticized PLGA according to claim 24, wherein in step (b) the ethanol is added in a quantity of 10 parts by weight/weight of PLGA.

29. (*Previously presented*) Plasticized PLGA according to claim 24, wherein in step (d) the drying is conducted until obtaining an ethanol concentration in PLGA comprised between 10 and 30%/by weight/PLGA weight.

30. (*Previously presented*) Plasticized PLGA according to claim 29 wherein said ethanol concentration is 20% by weight/PLGA weight.

31. (*Previously presented*) Plasticized PLGA according to claim 29, wherein said drying is carried out at a temperature comprised between 20 and 25°C under an air stream.

32. (*Previously presented*) Plasticized PLGA as claimed in claim 24, wherein the grinding temperature in step (d), (e) and (g) is -10°C.

33. (*Previously presented*) Plasticized PLGA as claimed in claim 24 wherein in step (e) the weight ratio of PLGA originating from step (d)/PLGA as such is comprised between 16:84 and 40:60.

34. (*Previously presented*) Subcutaneous implants obtained by extrusion, containing an active principle dispersed in PLGA plasticized with ethanol as claimed in claim 24.

35. (*Previously presented*) Subcutaneous implants as claimed in claim 34 containing thermolabile active principles.

36. (*Previously presented*) Subcutaneous implants as claimed in claim 35, wherein said thermolabile active principles are chosen from the class consisting of: proteins, vaccines, antibodies and vectors for genic therapy.

37. (*Currently amended*) A process for preparing a subcutaneous implant obtained by extrusion containing an active principle dispersed in PLGA plasticized with ethanol according to claim **24** ~~1~~, comprising the following steps:

i) mixing the active principle with the plasticized PLGA as claimed in claim **24** ~~1~~, at a temperature between -20°C and +5°C,

ii) extruding the ground product originating from step (i) at a temperature less than 70°C.

38. (*Previously presented*) The process as claimed in claim 37, wherein the temperature of step (i) is -10°C.

39. (*Previously presented*) The process as claimed in claim 37 wherein the temperature of step (ii) is less than 60°C when plasticized PLGA containing when plasticized PLGA containing ethanol at concentrations between 3 and 4% by weight on the weight of PLGA is used in step (i).

40. (*Previously presented*) The process as claimed in claim 38, wherein the temperature of step (ii) is equal to 40°C, when plasticized PLGA containing ethanol at concentrations between 5 and 10% by weight/ weight of PLGA is used.